

Remarks:

Preliminary amendments to limit the examination effort required for the claims have been made to submit certain embodiments of the present invention for examination in this initial application. The amendments are believed to be consistent with the disclosure originally filed. The amendments have been particularly presented to avoid, where applicable, any admission or estoppel, generally, negatively effecting the scope of protection provided by the disclosure and claims of the present application, and particularly to avoid any right to pursue any claims in any subsequent application, any prosecution history estoppel, any limitation of the scope of equivalences, or the like.

It should be understood that the amendments submitted herein are made as a matter of practicality only, and should not to be construed as creating any situation of file wrapper estoppel or the like as all rights are expressly reserved and may be pursued in this or other applications, such as divisionals, continuations, or continuations-in-part if desired. Amendments are made for tangential issues of clarity and as a matter of the Office's convenience or expedience only. The amendments should not be interpreted as an action that in any way surrenders a particular equivalency, surrenders any right to patent coverage, or otherwise limits any rights that the Applicant may now or hereafter assert. It should be understood that, unless and to the extent deemed broadened by this amendment, and even as amended, the Applicant expressly reserves all rights, including but not limited to: all rights to maintain the scope of literal coverage with respect to any element as may have existed under the language previously presented, all rights to maintain the scope of equivalency coverage as may have existed under the language previously presented, and all rights to re-present the prior language at any time in this or any subsequent application. To the extent currently foreseeable, no change or reduction in *direct or* equivalency coverage is believed to exist, and no change or reduction in *direct or* equivalency coverage is intended through the presentation of this amendment.

Conclusion:

The specification has been preliminarily amended to limit examination to only certain embodiments of the present invention. Claims 25-48 have been canceled without prejudice, to limit the examination effort required for this initial application. Claims 1-24 remain in the case for examination at this time. Please amend the application as indicated above and consider the claims. An early consideration of the present application is earnestly requested.

Dated this 14th day of July, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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